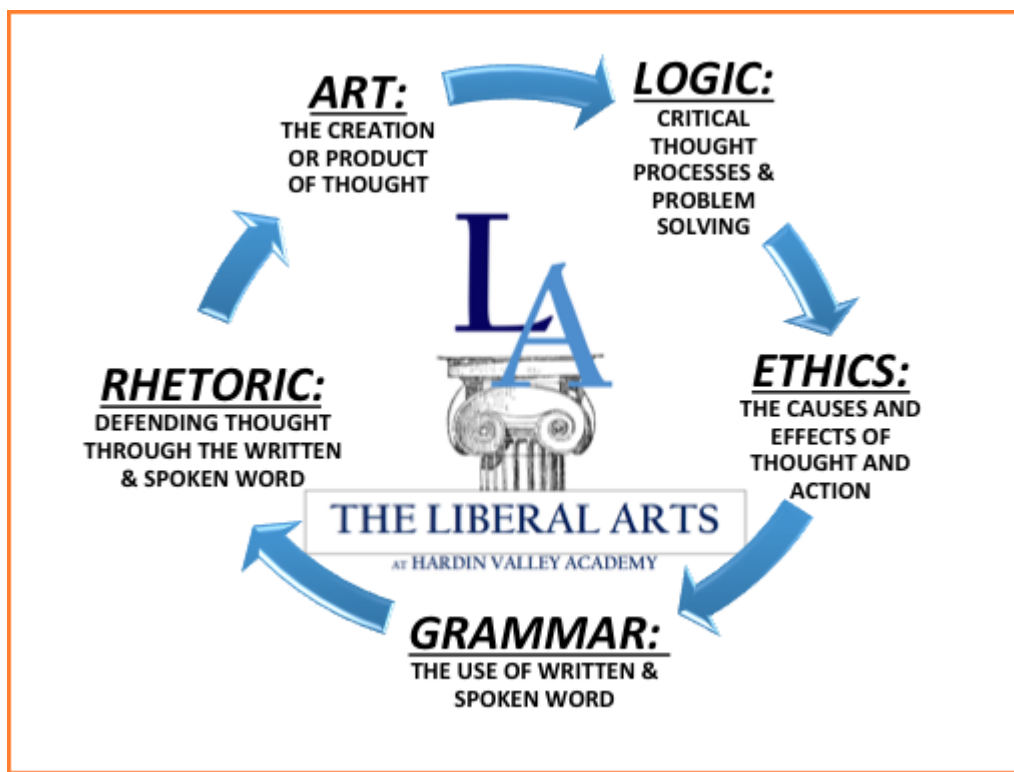


Liberal Arts Summer Challenge 2017

Background:

As Liberal Artists, we believe in challenging ourselves. We value the traditional liberal arts ideals of art, logic, ethics, grammar, and rhetoric. This is an academic way of saying that we believe in “stepping-up-our-game” by showing the world that we are ethical problem-solvers and analytical-thinkers.

So, in this spirit, we invite each of you to complete FIVE tasks this summer related to Liberal Arts in the modern world. Challenge yourself to step-up and fully engage in this activity.



Embrace the Exploration: Summer is a great time to recharge your batteries. It is a good opportunity to be inquisitive and engaged in things you care about. This summer’s task is to guide you in a productive opportunity. (FYI: This would make great material for a future Common App College Admissions Essay if you invest your energy.)

Common Sense Reminder: Be smart. Be safe. If you choose to complete volunteer hours, make sure you are working with a reputable organization.

Options:

- **Logic:**

Please pick a global, national or local issue that you care about. Examples: Fresh water in Africa, World Hunger, Environmental Preservation, Curing Cancer. Please note, this issue should be something that you really care about. Logically look at the world around you and identify something that you would like to “be better” in your life time (or in the lifetimes of your future children or grandchildren).

Formally State Issue Here (please explain why it is a concern):

Why do you think the problem exists?

Please research the issue (with some light Googling) and tell us who the issue impacts and what is currently being done to help solve the problem:

- **Ethics:**

Ethics are a set of moral principles that govern a person's behavior. One of the ways we develop a true personal code of ethics involves volunteer work. It is a way to express the things that we personally care about and give back to the community in which we live. We also tend to learn things about ourselves in the process.

Please strive to earn at least five community service hours this summer and complete the appropriate documentation for Hardin Valley Academy upon your return to school. The following list of non-profits may be helpful in finding an organization that matches your chosen issue:

<http://www.knoxvilletennessee.com/orgs.html>

With that said, the volunteer work is not “required” to connect to your chosen issue. It is simply a richer experience if you take the extra time to find something that connects to something you really care about.

What do I do if I can’t drive anywhere? In order to get community service hours you need to work with an organization outside your home. However, in order to practice your personal ethics, you don’t need to leave your house. Can you cook dinner for your family one night? Can you help an elderly neighbor around the house? Reflect on how your good deed impacts both others and your worldview.

- **Grammar:**

Please take a moment to think about the cause you identified under the Logic section of this assignment. If your Flight Time were to vote and decide to help YOUR cause, what would you propose that you could do to help benefit YOUR chosen cause? Would you do a fundraiser? A social media campaign? What do you think? Please explain.

(Lines below are for notes -- you'll need a separate sheet to do this well).

- **Rhetoric:**

Pretend that there is a panel of Liberal Arts teachers and students deciding which cause to support. How would you make an argument for your cause? Would you tell the story of one person impacted? Would you provide data to support your claim? Please write your argument to present to this panel.

(Lines below are for notes -- you'll need a separate sheet to do this well).

- **Art:**

Please create a piece of art responding to your issue. Your creativity is your only limitation. You may choose the medium: paint, draw, sculpt, recycle-found-art ... it's up to you. Your final product may be realistic or abstract. If you choose some sort of performance art or installation art, then be sure to photo-document it for your teacher and peers.

If you prefer, then you may also create a photo essay to fulfill this requirement. The Google Photo app has some great photo / video presentation options. Also, you may want to check out the popular blog / twitter account Humans of New York: <http://www.humansofnewyork.com/>

This is a great site for "how" to create a photo essay. We may share some of our best via Liberal Arts social media in the fall.